

Grace Weekly: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018

Education Classes for all ages at 9:15 am throughout building.

**denotes music in the 10:30 am liturgy*



***Prelude** *Adagio Cantabile* from *Sonata, Op. 13* Ludwig van Beethoven
Dr. Lillian Pearson, *Interim Organist & Choir Director*

***Gathering Hymn 448** O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High *Deus tuorum militum*

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22:24-30 (*Read responsively by whole verse, beginning with the lectern side.*)

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

***Sequence Hymn 178** Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord *Alleluia No. 1*

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

***Anthem at the Offertory** Wondrous Love arr. Marie Pooler

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing,

to God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

***Communion Hymn 204** Now the Green Blade Riseth *Noël nouvelet*

***Recessional Hymn 516** Come Down, O Love Divine *Down Ampney*

***Postlude** *Air from French Suite in E-flat Major* J.S. Bach

Our Prayers

Members of Grace Church: Ben, Bill, Diane & Maribeth, Bob, Carol, Douglas, Kurt & Stephen, Joann, Evelyn, Linda & Al

For those who have died: Mary Elizabeth Stagier, Shay, Richard Martin, brother-in-law of Carl Matthews, Rosalie Leary, sister of Bill Pace

Friends of Grace: Andy, Ashley, Barbie, Becky, Billy, Bob, Drew, Fred, George Jackie, John, Kent, Mazie, Rina, Spencer, and the men and women in our Armed Forces.

In Our Cycles of Prayers this week, we remember: St. Marks, Gastonia; The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East The Most Revd Suheil Dawani Archbishop, Jerusalem & the Middle East & Archbishop in Jerusalem.

Serving This Week

Choir: Kathy Alley, Jackie Blevins, Diane & Bill Collins, Pam Davis, Nancy Fergusson, Mary & Mike Hartman, Marlene Hyatt, Mary Alice & Michael Lodico, Ann Rothermel, Joanne Thrower, Kathleen & Bob Vogt, Paula & Peter Welling

Altar Guild: Melanie Walt, Gretchen Tope, Crystal Clary

Coffee Hour: Kathie & Patrick Johnson (8:00) Joe Root & Natalie Bayless (10:30)

Collection Counters: Donna Buckner & Crystal Clary

Crucifer/Server & Torchbearers: Kent Clary, Susan Williams, Kathy Alley (10:30)

Lectors: Linda Sexton (8:00) Susan Williams & John Zeller (10:30)

Eucharistic Ministers: Donna Buckner, Linda Deeb, Gretchen Tope (8:00)
Sara Tyburski, Jack Geist, Melanie Walt (10:30)

Ushers: Dan Atterholt, Phyllis Watson (10:30)

Eucharistic Visitor: Gretchen Tope visiting Alice Sexton

Today

EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

***Children: Ages 3 – 6 – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Downstairs)**

Ages 7 – 10 – Godly Play (Downstairs)

***Youth: Rite 13 (across from Library)**

***Adults: "Celebrating Differences."** Paula Welling will lead an exercise from *God's Tapestry* by William Kondrath. Paula will preface the exercise with a few points from his book highlighting his belief that God created diversity for our good.

Announcements

The **Burial Rite for Mary Elizabeth Staiger** will be on **Saturday, May 5** at 2:00 pm in the Church with the committal in the Memorial Garden and reception following in Thatcher Hall.

The **Burial Rite for Spring Allen** will be on Saturday, May 12 at 2:00 pm in the Church with the committal in the Memorial Garden and reception following in Thatcher Hall.

First Friday Family Potluck – Hosted at the Rectory on **May 4 at 5:30 pm**. Bring a dish to share. This is a very informal gathering that gives the parish family a chance to break bread and “play” together. All ages and households encouraged to attend. Beverages and reusable plates/plasticware provided.

Men of Grace Breakfast is Saturday, May 5, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Thatcher Hall. Join us for great fellowship and food.

May 6 is Rogation Sunday! Join us at 9:30 am during Education Hour for a special liturgy as we process around the “bounds” of the parish, singing, reading Scripture, and asking God’s blessing on our harvest (both our literal harvest in the Grace Giving Garden and the harvest of good works from our ministries together). The word “rogation” comes from the Latin rogatio, which means asking. This liturgy dates from the fifth century in France. We’ll begin on the Green in front of the Church and end in the Grace Giving Garden. Special, vibrant music will add joy and rhythm to our procession. Dress comfortably!

Eucharistic Ministers Needed & Training Scheduled: Eucharistic Ministers proclaim the Good News of God’s forgiveness and promise of new life in Christ through the sacred act of administering the chalice at Communion. We’d like to have teams of 12 to serve on a monthly basis at either the 8:00 am or the 10:30 am service. Please speak to the rector about discerning whether this ministry might be right for you. Mandatory training for current and future EM’s is available on Sunday, May 6 at 12:00 pm or Saturday, May 12 at 9:00 am, as we are making a few changes to simplify the flow.

Formation Course for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offered at Cathedral of All Souls in Asheville. Part 1 meets June 18 – 23, 2018 and Part 2 meets June 24 – 29, 2019 from 8:30 – 4:30. The contemplative teaching method of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) invites us to journey with the child toward fullness of life in Christ. During the course we will hear, ponder, and celebrate the essential mysteries of the Christian life, and how those mysteries are experienced by even the youngest among us. This formation course is open to all adults who wish to deepen their understanding of scripture, liturgy, and the sacraments of the church. Contact the Rector or Louisa Lunt or Paula Eachus to learn more.

Beyond Our Doors

Sharing Solutions: A Haywood County Community Opioid Forum, Monday, April 30, 2018, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Haywood Community College Main Auditorium. Organized by Haywood County Health & Human Services Agency & Mountain Projects Prevention Services.

The **Eco-Chaplaincy Initiative** is offering a day-long workshop on **May 5, 2018** in Black Mountain titled, “The Work That Reconnects,” modeled from the work of the renowned Joanna Macy, PhD. Learn more at <http://www.ecochaplaincy.net/WorkThatReconnects.html>

Spring Concert. On **Sunday May 2 at 4:00 pm**, the **Haywood Community Chorus** will present its annual **Spring Concert** at First United Methodist in Waynesville. The featured selection is Dan Forrest’s newest masterwork for chorus and orchestra **LUX: THE DAWN FROM ON HIGH**, the texts of which are drawn from an ancient theological chant, scripture, and modern secular love poetry. The concert is free but an offering will be collected. Our former Director of Music, Kathy Geyer McNeil, directs the chorus, and Grace choir members in the chorus include Jackie Blevins, Bill Collins, Nancy Fergusson, Joanne Thrower, and Kathleen Vogt.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Retreat at Lake Logan, May 18-19, 2018: You are invited to our Women's Retreat and Silent Auction at Lake Logan Conference Center, Canton, NC. For more information contact parishioner Betsy Stecher.

4th Quarter Retreat: Lifespan Playing & Planning at Lake Logan, May 20 – 22, 2018: The 4th quarter of life presents new challenges and opportunities as we face issues related to health care, legal concerns, loss of life partners, and the potential of new living arrangements. The format will be a light ‘n lively mix of serious information, skill building, and whimsy - with plenty of time for recreation! Learn more at <http://www.lakelogan.org/events>.

Regular Gatherings April 30 – May 5, 2018 (* = open to all to attend)

- *Dream Group, Tuesday, 9:00 – 10:30 am, Library
- *Open Library Use, Wednesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
- *Holy Eucharist and Healing Service, Wednesday, 12:00 noon, Church
- *Grace Thomas Group, Wednesday, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, Church
- Choir Rehearsal, Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Choir Room
- *Marthas Knitting Group, Thursday, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, Marthas Room
- *Sisters of Grace, Thursday, 6:00 – 8:00 pm (Location to be announced)
- *Friday Morning Prayer, 8:00 am, at Panacea Coffee House
- *Order of St. Luke, Friday, 1:00 pm, Library
- *Men of Grace Breakfast, Saturday, 9:00 am – 11:00 am, Thatcher Hall

Grace Church in the Mountains (Episcopal)
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Treasurer / Bookkeeper: finance@gracewaynesville.com

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop of Western North Carolina
The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Rector
The Rev. Br. Raymond Escott, n/OSB, Deacon
The Rev. Orion Davis & The Rev. Harriet Simmons, Priest Associates
Dr. Lillian Pearson, Interim Organist and Choir Director
Alyson Nelson, Bookkeeper
Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor
Peter Zinglersen, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

Bill Collins, Sr. Warden (2018)
Louisa Lunt (2018)
Linda Sexton (2018)

Linda Deeb (2019)
Rob Viau (2019)
Paula Welling, Jr. Warden (2019)

Crystal Clary (2020)
Mary Hartman (2020)
Kenneth Ratcliffe (2020)

Mary Lockey, Clerk

Fred Deeb, Treasurer